

Pirate Pearls

Vol 6. No 1 • August 2021

Welcome Back!

ECU Graduate & Professional Students Social

**Thurs.
Aug. 19
5-7pm**

Pitt Street Brewing Company

630 S. Pitt Street

FREE food from The Burp Wagon*



Welcome Back!

August 19th

Join us at Pitt Street Brewing Company for a Welcome Back Social. FREE food for the first 100 students from The Burp Truck. FREE T-shirt and other giveaways while supplies last. Meet your GPSS Executive Board and other Graduate and Professional Students!

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Thesis Or
Dissertation Upload
Deadline

Fall 2021 - December 1
Spring 2022 - April 21
Summer 2022 - July 15

This date is always in the Academic Calendar. Click on the Blue Link on the top of any academic calendar and you will be taken to the Application and Processing Calendar. The Thesis & Dissertation deadline is always listed there!

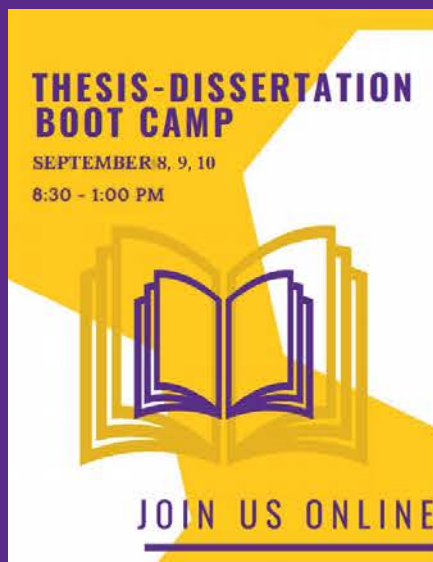


COVID-19 MASK UPDATES



- **Indoors:** Beginning Wednesday, Aug. 4, face coverings will again be required in all indoor spaces on campus for students, faculty, staff and visitors, *regardless of vaccination status*, unless:
 - You are alone in a private, enclosed residence hall room, apartment or office with the door closed.
 - You are in an enclosed indoor space where only household members are present; for example, residence hall roommates.
 - You are actively eating or drinking.
- **Outdoors:** Face coverings are not required in outdoor spaces for vaccinated individuals, but masks are encouraged, especially in large crowds. Anyone who has not been fully vaccinated should wear a face covering outdoors.
- **Buses:** Face coverings will continue to be required on ECU Transit buses.
- Vaccinated faculty may remove their masks while teaching as long as three to six feet of physical distancing is maintained.
- More COVID-19 Info is available at <https://returnofpiratenation.ecu.edu/>

THESIS- DISSERTATION BOOT CAMP



September 8, 9, 10
8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Thesis-Dissertation Boot Camp is offered each semester in partnership with the Graduate School, Joyner Library, and the University Writing Center. For Fall 2021, the dates are September 8, 9, and 10. Typically 3 days, the students learn information about preparing their thesis or dissertation document in brief discussions, but the specific purpose of boot camp is focused writing time.

This workshop is designed to help students produce pages, whether in a chapter, as figures, or references or statistical analysis. This workshop is not designed to teach the student how to do a thesis or dissertation project or how to get started. Most students attend this workshop when they are writing their proposal or when they are finishing their document before their defense. Students are welcome at any stage when their goal is to produce a significant amount of pages.

All meetings will be through Teams and the entire workshop is virtual. The day starts at 8:30 am and ends around 1:00 PM. Students will join a Teams meeting for short periods of time for support, instruction, and discussion. Most of the time is spent in focused writing time – the student is on their own at their preferred location writing, writing, writing!

Registration is required so the students can be added to the Team. You can pre-register or review a flyer with more information on the Graduate School's Workshop website [here](#).

STUDENT EVENTS

Health Sciences Campus Welcome Back!

Join us at the Health Sciences Student Center on Thursday, August 26th for FREE food, T-shirts, and activities! We'll also be celebrating the GRAND OPENING of the Purple Pantry.

→ [Check it out!](#)

Graduate and Professional Students Family Pottery Painting

Stop in between during the following days and times and paint a piece of pottery for FREE.

- Thursday: 10am - 9pm
- Friday: 10am - 9pm
- Saturday: 10am - 6pm
- Sunday: Noon - 5pm

You may bring a guest but need to indicate how many (up to 2 guests) in your RSVP. Students and guests may paint any item listed at \$12 or less. Students/guests may paint items above \$12 but will be asked to pay the difference.

You must RSVP to this event in order to register for the event. RSVP's will open on August 26. Limited to 80 students + guests.

→ [RSVP Here!](#)

Many events have limited attendance because of the free items that are typically provided, so make sure to register for an event early!





LOOKING FOR CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT?

[Visit the Student Employment Office page!](#)

The Student Employment Office (SEO) provides support to the entire campus and community throughout the hiring process of ECU student employees. SEO maintains an online job database to help current ECU students connect with part-time job opportunities both on and off-campus. Working a part-time job on or off-campus enables students to apply knowledge and skills learned in the classroom toward future employment. Students who work while going to school have an opportunity to help pay for the cost of their education while gaining experience and valuable skills to enhance their career goals.

ASSISTANTSHIP REQUIREMENT

Were you awarded an assistantship?

Congratulations on accepting a graduate assistantship! Here is a quick explanation to help make your hiring process smoother.

It is required for you to sign an I-9 form if you are employed on campus. Your ECU email will be the method we use to communicate with you if we need you to complete an I-9. You will only receive an email invitation to complete an I-9 if an I-9 is required of you. Continue to check your email notifications.

If you receive an invitation to complete an I-9, you will need to present documentation to verify your identity. For example, you can present an un-expired passport or a combination of your student ID and your social security card. A complete list of acceptable documents will be attached to the email invitation to complete an I-9. Please note we cannot accept copies of documents. We must see the original documents.

If you have questions about your I-9 you can contact the student employment office I-9 coordinator at 252-328-6873.

OFFICE FOR FACULTY EXCELLENCE HAS TRAININGS GRADUATE STUDENTS CAN ATTEND!

The [Office for Faculty Excellence \(OFE\)](#) (physically housed in Joyner Library, first floor) has many trainings for both faculty and graduate students. Graduate students are future faculty so we want to support your professional development. Review the OFE website to read more about their workshops offered each semester. This fall you can attend SPSS trainings, University Design trainings for your online and classroom teaching, best practices in teaching discussion groups, and more! The offerings at OFE range from research to teaching to overall professional development! Spend some time reviewing their website to learn all they can do for you - as a graduate student!

Waive out or you're in!

Student Health Insurance Plan

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS!

North Carolina law requires campus-based graduate students to have health insurance. This applies to new and continuing students.

If you are taking 3 or more credits of campus-based courses, you are eligible to purchase the campus Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP). If you do not want this plan, you **MUST** waive out or you will be billed for it.

Graduate students should review the [Frequently Asked Questions website for Student Health Services](#). Once there, click on "Insurance."

IMPORTANT REQUIREMENTS

Human Subject Research Requires UMCIRB Approval



Many graduate students conduct research during their graduate program whether it's for a doctoral dissertation, master's thesis, or other research project. The University and Medical Center Institutional Review Board (UMCIRB) protects the rights and welfare of human participants in research at ECU, Vidant Medical Center, and its affiliates. Also, any research conducted elsewhere by ECU faculty, staff, students, or other representatives of the university must be reviewed by the UMCIRB, as well.



The UMCIRB has a robust website with information needed **PRIOR** to conducting any research with human participants. This includes access to the electronic submission system (ePIRATE), standard operating practices, training requirements for persons involved in the conduct of human research, FAQs as well as the rosters of membership for the UMCIRB committee. In addition, the UMCIRB staff are available to assist researchers with forms, submissions and to answer their questions.

All graduate students should investigate training requirements as well as begin training to use ePIRATE prior to any study.

Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) Required for all Research Personnel

The CITI courses are required online modules for principal investigators, sub-investigators, research coordinators, and any other research team members (including graduate assistants) that have contact with research participants and their research data or private information. The ECU UMCIRB maintains a CITI course FAQ website which answers all your questions and provides information about which modules within the CITI course are required for the type of research you will be doing.

Once you complete the modules you must log the completion date in your ePIRATE profile. Once this date is added to your ePIRATE profile, it will automatically be populated next to your name in any submission to the IRB. You must update this date in your ePIRATE portal each time you do the refresher course, as well. ePIRATE is not connected to CITI online, so you must log the date yourself in ePIRATE.



IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

AUGUST
17

**NEW GRADUATE
STUDENT
ORIENTATION-
CAMPUS EVENT**

[Events Calendar](#)

SEPT
6

NO CLASSES

[State Holiday](#)

AUGUST
20

**FALL 2021 & BLOCK
8W1 ADVISING,
REGISTRATION,
SCHEDULE
ADJUSTMENTS**

[Events Calendar](#)

SEPT
20

**FALL 2021 - 8WK BLOCK 1
WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE**

[Events Calendar](#)

AUGUST
23

**FALL 2021 FIRST DAY
OF CLASSES- 15-WEEK
& BLOCK 8W1**

[Events Calendar](#)

OCT
7

**FALL 2021 8-WEEK
BLOCK 1 CLASSES END**

[Events Calendar](#)

AUGUST
25

**FALL 2021 8-WK BLOCK 1
LAST DAY FOR
REGISTRATION/SCHEDULE
ADJUSTMENTS (DROP/ADD)**

[Events Calendar](#)

OCT
13

**FALL 2021 8-WEEK
BLOCK 2 CLASSES
BEGIN**

[Events Calendar](#)

AUGUST
27

**FALL 2021 15-WEEK LAST
DAY FOR
REGISTRATION/SCHEDULE
ADJUSTMENTS (DROP/ADD)**

[Events Calendar](#)

OCT
15

**FALL 2021 8-WK BLOCK 2
LAST DAY FOR
REGISTRATION/SCHEDULE
ADJUSTMENTS (DROP/ADD)**

[Events Calendar](#)